

Heppner student reaches finals

Zach Bredfield, a sixth grade student at Heppner Elementary, saw an article in "Storyworks" magazine last fall, and decided to enter the "Create a Character" contest. The premise of the contest was to create a character which would be chosen by children's author Gordon Korman as the protagonist of a new novel. After hours of deliberation, Zach decided on a character named Zane Geddes, a 13-year old who lived in medieval Scotland. Zach developed Zane's characteristics, the story's setting, and the problem of the tale. He also drew a picture of Zane with the help and



Zach Bredfield

support of his classmate artists. The submission was sent to "Storyworks" and Zach said, "I had kind of forgotten about it until my teacher, Mrs. Allen, received an email from Scholastic, who prints the magazine." She announced to all of my classmates that I was one of the finalists out of over 6,000 entries." The author, Gordon Korman, sifted through the thousands of hopeful entries and ended up with four to consider further. Zach is patiently waiting for further news, which should come in April. Zach's picture and character description will be on the "Storyworks" website.

WCCC Men's Club kick-off

The Willow Creek Country Club Men's Club Kick Off breakfast and play will be held on Sunday. The WCCC Board of Directors will serve the breakfast at 8 a.m. with tee off scheduled at 9 a.m. Sign up for play will be done by the 2013 officers of the Men's Club including Matt Scrivner, president; Ron Bowman, vice-president; John Edmundson, secretary; and board members, Tom Shear and Duane Disque.

Irrigon man returns from deployment

Army Sgt. Jeremiah J. Coffey has returned to the U.S. after being deployed overseas at a forward operating base to serve in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Operation Enduring Freedom is the official name given to anti-terrorism military operations involving U.S. troops and allied coalition partners. Active duty and reserve component members from all branches of the U.S. armed forces have been deployed to support the war against global terrorism outside the borders of the United States.

U.S. troops serve in south, southwest and central Asia, the Arabian Peninsula, the Horn of Africa, islands in the Pacific, and Europe.

Coffey is a squad leader assigned to the 4th Airborne Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK. He has served in the military for six years.

He is the son of Daniel Coffey of Airport Road, Hermiston, and Bonnie Carvajal of Southeast Ninth Street, Irrigon, OR.

The sergeant is a 1995 graduate of Dayton High School, WA.

Warm Water therapy pool now available

The Willow Creek Park District will open the Waterpark warm water Therapy Pool for public use starting Wednesday, March 20.

"The Therapy pool has been has been out of use for some time due to various problems", said Skip Matthews, WCPD Board President, "we have been able to update the heater and repair everything so it is ready for the public to use again."

The pool will be available for reservations Wednesday through Friday

from noon until 7:00 p.m. Rocky Mountain Therapy has reserved Wednesdays from 2:00 to 4:00. The cost for Therapy Pool use is \$12 per hour for up to six people with a one hour minimum. Punch cards will be sold for \$25 or \$40.

Contact us by phone at 541-676-5752, or e-mail at wcpwspa@centurylink.net. Leave your name, date and time you are requesting and your phone number. You can also check for updates on our Facebook page, Willow Creek Water Park.

Ione school will host district speech and debate tournament

Ione High School Speech and Debate team will host this year's district tournament. Ione will welcome speech teams from Hermiston High School and Pine Eagle High School on April 5. The tournament will be held in the afternoon, but the exact start time has not been determined.

Ione has had a team for seven years, but this is the first time the school has hosted the district tournament. Oregon offers twelve different speech events and four different styles of debate at the high school level.

Dist. 9 should see representation in all the speech events, as well as three of the four debates. Speech competitors will compete in two rounds, in front of multiple judges. Composite scores will determine who advances to the OSAA state tournament at Western Oregon University. Debate rounds will be set after the number of teams has been finalized. After years of taking Ione to speech tournaments, Coach Jim Raible is excited

to bring a speech tournament to Ione. "It's a great chance for the community to experience something they may never have been exposed to." The biggest challenge to hosting the tournament in a small town is recruiting judges.

The judging at speech tournaments is done by coaches, teachers, parents, community members, and college students.

At larger tournaments attended by many schools, there are various sources to draw from. In a small town, the tournament will need all the help it can get. "There is no such thing as a certified speech judge like you might think of for basketball. The students are used to seeing all kinds of different judges. Once people get over the initial reservation, they have a great time judging," said Raible. To help facilitate, Raible plans to hold a judge training session one or two evenings before the tournament. Anyone interested in helping judge should contact Jim Raible at the school by phone 541-422-7131.

Club members show off jelly roll quilts



Pictured: L-R: Jill Rudolf, Morgan Orem, Payton Miller, MaLinda Morter, Mackenzie Heideman, and Madison Orem. Absent were Sydney Stefani and Jordan Rollis.

Members of the Sew Fantastic 4-H Club were excited to show off their finished quilt tops at their last meeting on March 9 at the Ione Community Church. The girls have been working on their jelly roll quilts for the past two months. Each quilt was made from forty pre-cut two and one half inch wide strips of color coordinated fabric called a "jelly roll". Everyone's quilts looked unique because of the different fabrics, how they arranged their strips, or the addition of borders. They

will be having them professionally quilted, and then sew on the binding to finish them up in time to display at the county fair. After the quilt show and tell, the members learned about pattern companies, pattern terminology and measurements. Then they proceeded to use a platen and rotary pinking blades to ach cut out a hooded sweatshirt from fabric they had chosen. Club members will continue to work on their sweatshirts at their next meeting on April 10, from 1-3 p.m. at the church.

Chamber lunch meeting

This week's lunch meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be held on Thursday. John Finley from Finley Fresh Produce will be guest speaker. He will give the history of Finley's Fresh Produce, their goals and share what produce is available. Sweet Productions will be catering lunch and will be serving: Beef enchilada, Spanish rice, refried beans and dessert

Please RSVP, 541-676-5536 no later than Wednesday to guarantee a lunch. The cost is \$10.

HHS students attend OSHA conference



Students from Heppner High School's Industry and Engineering Department attended the Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety & Health Conference in Portland. Students learned about the dangers of drowsy driving and dangerous Decibels with hearing loss, they also learned about the right to receive safety training from employers. Guest speakers talked about industrial accidents and their personal experiences with the loss of a limb. Students toured the exhibit hall visiting with Occupational Safety and Health Professionals. There were vendors to visit with, marketing nearly every conceivable safety product. There was a Fork Lift Rodeo with drivers pitting their fork lift operation skills against drivers from around the state. Pictured: Kellie Nelson, Kai Arbogast, Brey Hines-Kissler, Victor Meyer, Jesse Wolford, Joe Schmidt, Mikegean Wood, Justin Howey and Tim Nelson. Not pictured: Tyler Berry, Shelton Sharp and Rylee Wagener

Duo finishes walking map re-do



Ashlie Hanson & Kellie Nelson, with the support of John Edmundson, finished a long project started last year by a leadership class. The group re-did the city walking map and painted a variety of shamrocks on the sidewalk in conjunction with historical sites and area hot spots. Recently, Ashlie & Kellie went around and connected the special shamrocks with a walking path of smaller shamrocks. - Contributed photo

Heppner FFA will be recognized for its hard work



The Heppner FFA in cooperation with the Heppner Les Schwab Tire Center exceeded the 500 pound goal for food or cash donations that was set for each chapter by the state association. Between non-perishable food items and cash donations the FFA has donated 1247 pounds to the South Morrow Neighborhood Center. During the State FFA Convention, Heppner FFA will be recognized for this accomplishment. Without such generous communities supporting our activities we would never have had this success!

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS **HEPPNER MUSTANGS** **DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**
SOFTBALL
STATE CHAMPIONS 2012

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AND THANKS ALL STATE
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